

REMARKS

In the Office Action, claims 1-9, 13, 15-21 and 49-52 were rejected. The Examiner indicated that claims 10-12, 14, 53 and 54 recite allowable subject matter, and claims 22-48 were previously canceled. Although Applicants do not necessarily agree with the rejections of claims 1-9, 13, 15-21 and 49-52, Applicants have chosen to amend claims 1-15, 17-21, 49 and 54, and to cancel claims 16 and 50-53 without prejudice, in accordance with the Examiner Interview summarized below. Applicants respectfully note that the present amendments are identical to the amendments discussed with the Examiner on April 14, 2008. Upon entry of the amendments, claims 1-15, 17-21, 49 and 54 will remain pending in the present patent application and are believed to be in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of all pending claims.

Examiner Interview Summary

Applicants thank the Examiner for his participation in a telephonic interview with the undersigned representative on April 14, 2008. In this interview, the claims of the present patent application were generally discussed. Particularly, during the interview, Applicants' representative and the Examiner discussed amendments to claims 1, 15 and 49 that more particularly point out and distinctly claim certain subject matter which Applicants regard as their invention. Further, the Examiner gave a preliminary indication that the discussed amendments would put the application in condition for allowance. By the present Response, independent claims 1, 15 and 49, as well as the dependent claims, have been amended in the discussed manner. Accordingly, claims 1-15, 17-21, 49 and 54 are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

In view of the remarks and amendments set forth above, Applicants respectfully request allowance of the pending claims. If the Examiner believes that a telephonic interview will help speed this application toward issuance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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